

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01239 01 OF 02 241804Z

46

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-01 AGR-05 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

L-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

NEA-09 OIC-02 /116 W

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P R 241645Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 926

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONGEN ISTANBUL

AMCONGEN IZMIR

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 1239

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, UN, TU

SUBJECT: COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS: REFERENCE TO TURKISH CONTROLS

DURING ILLICIT TRAFFIC DEBATE (FEB 21, 1975)

1. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS ON OWN INITIATIVE INCLUDED IN
STATEMENTS TO CND EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT TURKEY
RESUMING CULTIVATION OF OPIUM POPPIES.

2. FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE, OPENING DEBATE, SAID TURKISH
DECISION STILL SOURCE OF CONCERN, EVEN THOUGH HIS GOVERNMENT
APPRECIATED DISTINCTION BETWEEN PREVIOUS LANCING PROCESS
AND POPPY STRAW PROCESS WHICH GOT HAS ADOPTED. HE
EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PRICES PAID BY GOT TO FARMERS WOULD BE
HIGH ENOUGH TO ENSURE FARMERS DID NOT DIVERT CROPS TO ILLICIT

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01239 01 OF 02 241804Z

TRAFFIC. HE EMPHASIZED NEED FOR STRICT LAW ENFORCEMENT

AND INCREASED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN FRENCH, TURKISH AND US INTELLIGENCE UNITS, TO SUPPRESS ILLICIT TRAFFIC.

3. INTERPOL REP STATED THAT TURKISH OPIUM BAN HAD HAD CONSIDERABLE EFFECT IN DECREASING ILLICIT TRAFFIC. FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT VIEWPOINT, HE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED BAN BE CONTINUED. SINCE TURKEY HAD TAKEN SOVEREIGN DECISION TO RESUME CULTIVATION, HOWEVER, ONE MUST BE REALISTIC AND ADAPT TO SITUATION. HE NOTED TURKEY HAD DECIDED TO ESTABLISH AN ADMINISTRATION TO CONTROL ILLICIT PRODUCTION AND HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION. IF IT WERE EFFECTIVE, TURKISH PLAN WOULD SUCCEED; IF NOT, FLOOD OF ILLICIT DRUGS WOULD ENTER INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC. HE HOPED ENOUGH PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, DETERMINATION AND CONVICTION WOULD BE APPLIED TO PROBLEM BY GOT. HE WISHED GOT SUCCESS AND PLEDGED THAT INTERPOL WOULD INFORM GOT OF ANY ILLICIT TRAFFIC IT DISCOVERS WHICH ORIGINATES IN TURKEY.

4. CANADIAN REP NOTED THAT TURKISH BAN HAD EFFECTUATED REDUCTION IN ILLICIT TRAFFIC AND CALLED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN INCB, INTERPOL AND GOT TO ENSURE THAT REVISION OF BAN DOES NOT HAVE HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES. HE ASSERTED THAT REAPPEARANCE OF ILLICIT OPIUM FROM TURKEY WOULD BE INTERNATIONAL TRAGEDY.

5. SWEDISH REP STATED HE UNDERSTOOD POSITION OF TURKISH DELEGATION, THAT THERE WAS REAL DOMESTIC PROBLEM OF POOR FARMERS WHICH WAS SOLVED BY TURKEY. HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN WILL OF TURKISH AUTHORITIES TO EFFECTUATE CONTROLS OUTLINED BY TURKISH REP, BUT NOTED DIFFICULTY IN INSTALLING CONTROLS WHEN A NEW HARVESTING SYSTEM IS ALSO BEING INSTALLED. HE THEREFORE BELIEVED IT IMPORTANT FOR THE UN TO BECOME INVOLVED BY MEANS OF EXTENSIVE TECHNICAL AID AND OBSERVERS.

6. AT THIS POINT TURKISH DEL GAVE LENGTHY DESCRIPTION OF TURKISH CONTROL PLANS FOLLOWING HIS REITERATION OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO EFFECTIVE CONTROLS. STATEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 01239 01 OF 02 241804Z

SUMMARIZED BELOW.

7. UK REP SAID HE LISTENED WITH INTEREST AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO TURKISH STATEMENT. HE SAID PAST INCB AND CND REPORTS AND STATEMENT OF TURKISH REP INDICATE GOT AWARE OF ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. HE THOUGHT TURKEY DESERVED CREDIT FOR ADOPTING THE STRAW PROCESS, BUT RECOGNIZED CONTROL MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE STRAW PROCESS IS NEW. HE WAS ENCOURAGED

BY TURKISH REPS ACCOUNT OF PLANS FOR CONTROL AND STATED HIS FEELING THAT SAFER PROCESS WOULD BE CARRIED THROUGH. HE URGED GOT TO GET ITS STRAW ONTO THE MARKET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FINALLY HE PLEDGED THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WOULD ASSIST TURKEY IN ITS CONTROL EFFORTS.

8. LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES REP NOTED THAT TURKISH RESUMPTION WILL DOUBLE WORK OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN REGION. HE CALLED FOR MEETINGS OF TURKISH/SYRIAN AND TURKISH/IRANIAN BORDER CONTROL UNITS TO INTENSIFY SURVEILLANCE OVER POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED ILLICIT TRAFFIC ORIGINATING IN TURKEY. EGYPTIAN REP EXPRESSED HOPE THERE WOULD BE NO DIVERSION FROM TURKISH CULTIVATION AND CALLED UPON ALL PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO AVOID DIVERSION.

9. US STATEMENT ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC WAS READ BEFORE DELIVERY AND WITHOUT OBJECTION BY TURKISH REP. TEXT OF THAT PART PERTAINING TO TURKEY FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. THE UNITED STATES NOTES THAT THE PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY, WHEN HE ANNOUNCED HIS GOVERNMENT'S DECISION LAST JULY 1 TO AUTHORIZE THE RESUMPTION OF POPPY CULTIVATION, SOLEMNLY ASSURED THE WORLD THAT THIS ACT WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO RESULT IN DAMAGE TO OTHER PEOPLES AND INVITED ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE UN AND FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE STRICT CONTROL. THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES THIS ASSURANCE. WE ARE UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED THAT THE RESUMPTION OF OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION IN TURKEY SHOULD NOT RESULT IN A NEW FLOW OF HEROIN INTO THE INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT TRAFFIC DESTINED PRIMARILY FOR WESTERN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES.

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PAGE 04 GENEVA 01239 01 OF 02 241804Z

"THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL ARRANGED VISITS TO TURKEY OF A SPECIAL MISSION, HEADED BY SIR HARRY GREENFIELD, RECENTLY RETIRED AS PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD. THAT MISSION RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY ADOPTION OF THE POPPY STRAW METHOD OF CULTIVATION. WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED THIS APPROACH. THIS METHOD OF CULTIVATION OFFERS GREATER POSSIBILITY OF EFFECTIVE CONTROL THAN THE TRADITIONAL METHOD OF INCISION. BUT CAREFUL POLICING IS, OF COURSE, REQUIRED IN THE FIELDS TO ASSURE THAT ILLEGAL INCISING IS NOT PRACTICED AND THAT OPIUM GUM IS NOT PRODUCED AND DIVERTED TO THE TRAFFICKERS, WHO WE ALL KNOW HAVE NOT DISAPPEARED IN THE IMPERFECT WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE AND WHO ARE ABLE TO OFFER FAR HIGHER PRICES THAN ANY LEGAL BUYER CAN AFFORD. WE, THEREFORE,

SHARE IN THE WIDESPREAD INTEREST HERE IN THE TURKISH
GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EFFECTIVE
CONTROLS. SPECIAL VIGILANCE BY THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES
WILL, OF COURSE, BE REQUIRED IN THE GROWING AREAS DURING
THE SHORT PERIOD WHEN INCISION WOULD BE POSSIBLE. END QUOTE.

10. TEXT OF TURKISH STATEMENT AIRPOUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND
ANKARA. SUMMARY OF SPEECH FOLLOWS:

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01239 02 OF 02 241808Z

46

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 1239

11. TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE STATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT
OF ACTION AGAINST ILLICIT DRUGS ON ALL FRONTS. HE
DESCRIBED ACHIEVEMENTS AS BEING (A) STRENGTHENING
DOMESTIC LAW ENFORCEMENT SINCE 1969 TO INTERCEPT INTER-
NATIONAL TRAFFICKERS (B) PREVENTING DOMESTIC ILLICIT
CONSUMPTION BY TURKS (C) SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL ACTION
AGAINST ILLICIT DRUGS BY COOPERATING WITH INTERPOL,
SUBCOMMISSION ON ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN MIDDLE EAST AND

NATIONAL DRUG AGENCIES IN SYRIA AND IRAN. HE SAID THESE EFFORTS WOULD CONTINUE AND THAT TURKEY, NOW AS WELL AS BEFORE OPIUM BAN, IS WORKING TO REDUCE AND CONCENTRATE AREA OF POPPIES CULTIVATED AS WELL AS TO CONTROL CULTIVATION BY LICENSES AND CROP YIELD BY INSPECTIONS.

12. HE DESCRIBED THREE PHASES OF PLANNED CONTROL AS FOLLOWS: FIRST PHASE (JULY 1-SEPT 30) GOVERNMENT HANDS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01239 02 OF 02 241808Z

OUT LICENSES TO APPROPRIATE FARMERS AND INSPECTS LAND. SECOND PHASE (OCT 1-JUNE 30) GOVERNMENT CHECKS LAND IN QUESTION AND YIELD, ASSURES CONFORMANCE WITH LICENSE. THIRD PHASE (JULY 1-AUGUST 31) GOVERNMENT BUYS POPPY STRAW YIELD FROM FARMERS AT 21 COLLECTION CENTERS AND 16 MOBILE UNITS. TMO COOPERATES WITH MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. POLICE AND JANDARMA ON ACTIVE DUTY THROUGHOUT POPPY GROWING AREA, ESPECIALLY DURING HARVEST. ABOUT 800 PERSONNEL WILL BE USED TO ENSURE EFFECTIVENESS.

13. HE SAID THIS SYSTEM WAS STRENGTHENED BY POPPY STRAW DECISION, WHICH HAD BEEN WELCOMED BY UN. HE DESCRIBED RESULTS OF GREENFIELD MISSIONS IN PROVIDING ELEMENTS REQUIRED FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, INCLUDING ADVANCED TRAINING, STUDY TOURS, CHEMICAL LABS AND VARIOUS EQUIPMENT. HE SAID POLICE AND JANDARMA WILL CLOSELY COOPERATE TO PREVENT ILLICIT TRAFFIC AND CULTIVATION. MIXED TEAMS PLUS AERIAL SURVEILLANCE WILL CONTROL SEVEN PROVINCES WHERE POPPIES CULTIVATED AND NARCOTICS EXPERTS WILL BE ASSIGNED BORDER POSTS TO INTERCEPT TRAFFIC. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT GRAVITY AND URGENCY OF ILLICIT DRUG SITUATION REQUIRES THAT ALL DO THEIR UTMOST TO FULFILL THEIR OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

14. COMMENT. GENERAL WELCOME ACCORDED PLANS FOR UN ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY WILL ENABLE DND/UNFDAC RESPOND WITH GREATER CONFIDENCE TO TURKISH REQUESTS.

15. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED POUCH THIS REPORT TO INTERESTED POSTS. DALE

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